

The Evangelistic Prayer Ministry of the Church

The Bible teaches that spiritual ministry can only be accomplished through the power of God. (Psalms 127:1,2) God's power is released into ministry situations through prayer, as the following passages demonstrate. Not only did the apostles feel the need to have their own ministries supported by prayer, they sought to accomplish ministry in others through prayer.

- **Ephesians 6:18,19.** "With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints, and pray on my behalf, that utterance may be given to me in the opening of my mouth, to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel."
- **2 Thessalonians 3:1.** "Finally, brethren, pray for us that the word of the Lord may spread rapidly and be glorified, just as (it did) also with you"
- **Hebrews 13:18.** "Pray for us, for we are sure that we have a good conscience, desiring to conduct ourselves honorably in all things."
- **Colossians 1:9.** "For this reason also, since the day we heard (of it), we have not ceased to pray for you and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding."

Groups that persistently pray for evangelism, and who pray for non-Christians by name will eventually receive answers to their prayers. Groups that feel no need to pray for evangelism eventually lose their ability to do evangelism. This is either because they tend to rely on human will power through pressure tactics, or they become demoralized and turn to other endeavors.

Discussion

Have the group describe how these things have been true in their experience or observation.